



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

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Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

MICHAEL REESE
SHERIFF

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November 8, 2018

The Honorable Rod Underhill
Multnomah County District Attorney's Office
1021 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: 2018 Corrections Grand Jury Report

Mr. Underhill,

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) is in receipt of the 2018 Corrections Grand Jury Report. We thank you and your staff for facilitating this collaborative process, which provides valuable insight into operational opportunities and challenges.

MCSO is indebted to this year's Corrections Grand Jury; we appreciated how they embraced the process and engaged criminal justice system partners. While review of the conditions and management of correctional facilities is not an easy assignment, it is important work to MCSO. We believe grand jurors are an integral part of our systems of accountability. Recommendations from this year's Grand Jury will build upon prior reports, and enhance our vision for keeping the community safe and providing rehabilitative services for adults entrusted to our custody.

MCSO will take time to review the recommendations in the Grand Jury Report and incorporate them into our audit processes. The report's key findings of serving people in mental health crisis, diversion programs, pre-trial alternatives to custody, staffing and overall jail capacity are issues we continue to address. We remain committed to working with our elected leaders, criminal justice system partners and social service providers to reduce recidivism and provide a continuum of care to adults in custody.

We also appreciate the grand jurors listening to our members and recognizing the professional development investments implemented over the past year. Our corrections professionals work hard despite difficult circumstances.

Thank you again for your dedication to this process, it increases transparency and accountability to an otherwise less visible area of public service.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Reese".

Michael Reese
SHERIFF